

What is claimed is:

1. A jig for cutting a work piece in a configuration conforming to a predetermined shape, comprising:

a) a base, comprising:

i) a first surface area defining:

a work area adapted to receive a work piece, and

an opening for receiving a cutting means, and

ii) a second surface area comprising at least one template holding means adapted to receive at least one template;

b) at least one clamping means for releasably securing said work piece on said work area;

wherein said at least one template holding means detachably attaches at least one template thereto, wherein the direction of movement of the cutting means guided by said template is transferred to the direction of movement of a cutting member of the cutting means, thereby cutting said work piece to conform to said predetermined shape.

2. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 2, wherein said clamping means for securing a work piece on said work area of said base, further comprises:

a) a first clamping means, and

b) a stopper edge;

wherein said first clamping means is slidably attached to said first surface area of said base;

wherein said stopper edge is defined by the junction between the first base surface area and the second base surface area;

said first clamping means and said stopper edge being oppositely disposed at opposite lateral sides of said work area to cooperatively securely position differently sized work pieces on said work area.

3. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said clamping means for securing a work piece on said work area of said base, further comprises:

a second clamping means rotably attached to said second base surface area, said second clamping means adapted for securing the work piece in a vertical direction.

4. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said cutting means further comprises a jig saw.

5. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said cutting means further comprises a hole saw.

6. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said cutting means further comprises a router.

7. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said coping jig is made by molding.

8. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said coping jig is made by casting.

9. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said coping jig is made of wood.

10. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, further comprising means for attaching said jig to a supporting surface.

11. A lightweight, portable, molded coping jig for cutting a work piece in a configuration conforming to a predetermined shape, comprising:

a) a base, comprising:

i) a first surface area defining:

a work area adapted to receive a work piece, and  
an opening for receiving a cutting means, and

ii) a second surface area comprising at least one template holding means adapted to receive at least one template;

b) at least one clamping means for releasably securing said work piece on said work area;

wherein said at least one template holding means detachably attaches at least one template thereto, wherein the direction of movement of the cutting means guided by said template is transferred to the direction of movement of a cutting member of the cutting means, thereby cutting said work piece to conform to said predetermined shape.

12. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 2, wherein said clamping means for securing a work piece on said work area of said base, further comprises:

- a) a first clamping means, and
- b) a stopper edge;

wherein said first clamping means is slidably attached to said first surface area of said base;

wherein said stopper edge is defined by the junction between the first base surface area and the second base surface area;

said first clamping means and said stopper edge being oppositely disposed at opposite lateral sides of said work area to cooperatively securely position differently sized work pieces on said work area.

13. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said clamping means for securing a work piece on said work area of said base, further comprises:

a second clamping means rotably attached to said second base surface area, said second clamping means adapted for securing the work piece in a vertical direction.

14. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said cutting means further comprises a jig saw.

15. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said cutting means further comprises a hole saw.

16. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said cutting means further comprises a router.

17. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said coping jig is made by molding.

18. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said coping jig is made by casting.

19. The coping jig, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said coping jig is made of wood.

20. An apparatus for cutting an end of a shaped work piece, said cut end having substantially the mirror image shape of the cross-section contours of said shaped work piece, comprising:

a) a work piece support means adapted to receive a cutting means having a work piece cutting member;

b) at least one anchoring and positioning means for releasably securing said work piece onto said support means for cutting;

c) at least one template having a guide surface with a guide surface contour, wherein said cutting means having a work piece cutting member is guided by said template guide surface to cut said work piece to a predetermined shape.